

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay. The examiner has indicated that the case contains allowable subject matter.

Claim 28, which originally depended via claim 27 on claim 18, has been found to contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the subject matter of claims 27 and 18 has been inserted into claim 28 to make it also allowable.

Main claim 18 has been amended to describe how the armor subfloor plate is formed of a group of substantially planar sections or panels joined at corners. This construction makes it possible to make the subfloor armor plate at a reasonable cost.

The plating is typically steel plate rated at 1800 N/mm². Thus making the concave rounded shape shown in US 6,558,984 of Zonak, which is the equivalent of the EP reference cited on page 2 of the original application here, extraordinarily expensive or impossible to manufacture. The flat-panel structure of this invention can be produced from armor plate at an affordable cost.

Thus the invention as defined in claim 18 defines structurally over the Zonak. The essence of the downwardly concave

Zonak invention is its concavity and "large radius" of curvature. Thus it would not be obvious to go against this essential element of the invention and make the plate 1 of a plurality of planar sections.

IN US 6,779,431 of Honlinger there is an upper floor 3 supported by air springs 4.1 and straps 5 on a lower floor 2 in turn spaced above a downwardly convex extension 1.3 of the side walls 1.1 and 1.2 of the vehicle. The structure 1.3 is not an armored plate, instead it is the interaction of the elements 2, 3 4.1 and 5 that protect the users supported on the floor 3. This structure is not comparable to the instant invention, since at best it is the floor 2 that is most comparable to the downwardly concave structure of this invention, and it is totally planar.

For these reasons all the claims in the case are in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

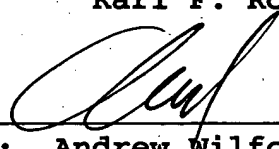
If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this

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case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: None.